



Saguaro National Park News Release



For Immediate Release

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SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK CELEBRATES AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH WITH SEVENTH ANNUAL CULTURAL FAIR

Native American craft demonstrators, dancers, musicians, and speakers will gather again at Saguaro National Park for the Seventh Annual American Indian Heritage Cultural Fair. The Fair takes place on Saturday November 3rd at the Tucson Mountain District (Saguaro West), 2700 North Kinney Road, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Artisans from several Arizona native Nations will display their craftworks, share American Indian dances, and give insights into Southwestern native cultures.

November is recognized as National American Indian Heritage Month, by virtue of a Presidential Proclamation. American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians are a special part of the tapestry of our Nation's history. As keepers of a rich and ancient cultural heritage, American Indians share with all of us the beauty of their art, power of song and grace of their people.

The Park visitor center will be filled with craft displays and demonstrations throughout the fair day. Navajo Rug weaving and silversmithing, and will represent the traditions of northern Arizona. Tohono O'odham Nation basket weavers will represent the best of Sonoran desert crafts. Some artisans will have crafts of their own making available for sale.

Schedule of events:

- 9:00 Event starts
- 10:00 Introductions
- 10:30 to 11:30 The royalty of the Tohono O'odham Nation will sing and speak about their culture
- 1:30 to 12:30 The royalty of the Pascua Yaqui Nation will sing and speak about their culture
- 12:30 to 1:30 Lunch/Break
- 1:30 to 2:30 William Yazzie – Navajo traditional social dance
- 3:00 to 3:30 Tony Redhouse - Traditional songs, stories and hoop dancing
- 3:30 to 4:00 Tohono O'odham Nation youth basket dancers

In addition, a special children's activities area will feature craft activities and demonstrations from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Traditional food will also be available for purchase.

Entrance fees for the park's west district (Saguaro West) will be waived for this special event.

Saguaro's annual American Indian Cultural Fair is sponsored by the National Park Service, with financial support provided by the Western National Parks Association and the Friends of Saguaro National Park. For additional information contact the park's Red Hills Visitor Center at (520) 733-5158.